

# Contents

## Discovery and naming

## References

## See also

## Description

## Discovery and naming

In 2006 the type species *Muzquizopteryx coahuilensis* was named and described by Eberhard Frey, Marie-Céline Buchy, Wolfgang Stinnesbeck, Arturo González-González and Alfredo di Stefano. The generic name is derived from the Múzquiz district and a Greek πτέρυξ, *pteryx*, "wing". The specific name is derived from the state of Coahuila.<sup>[1]</sup>

In 2012 a second specimen was reported, MUDE CPC-494, again uncovered by a quarry worker, perhaps at the same site, and sold to a private collector. It was later acquired by the Museo del Desierto Saltillo. It consists of the right upper wing of a subadult individual, with about 81% of the length of the holotype. As its provenance probably

***Muzquizopteryx***

**Temporal range:** Late Cretaceous,  
**85.8 Ma**

Pre€ € OS D C P T J K PgN



### Scientific classification

Kingdom: Animalia

Phylum: Chordata

Order: †Pterosauria

Suborder: †Pterodactyloidea

*Clade:* †Pteranodontia

Family: †Nyctosauridae

Genus: †*Muzquizopteryx*  
Frey *et al.*, 2006

### Type species

†*Muzquizopteryx coahuilensis*  
Frey et al., 2006

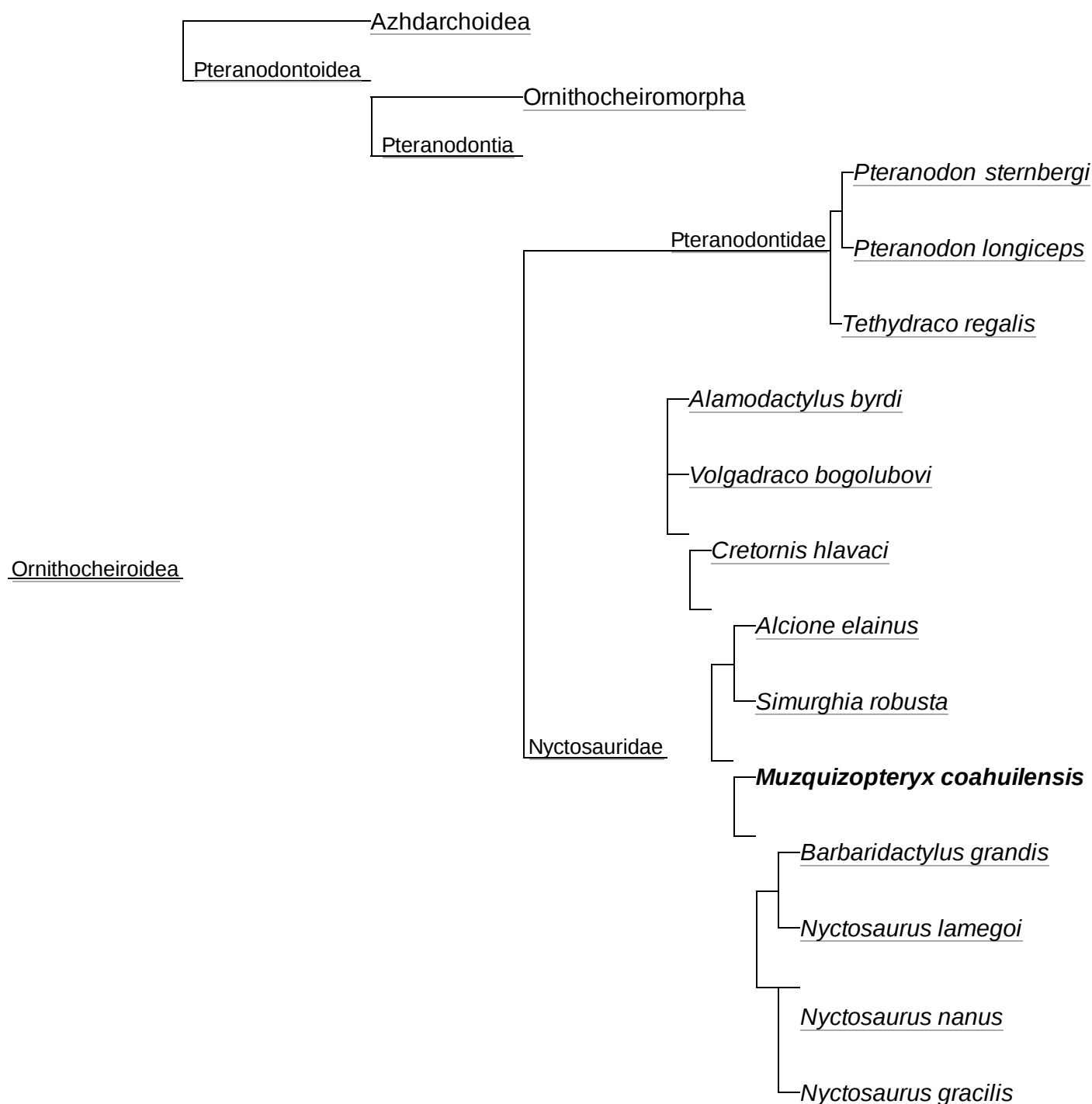
consists of slightly older layers from the late Turonian and the remains are limited, it was referred to a *Muzquizopteryx* sp.<sup>[4]</sup>

## Classification

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*Muzquizopteryx* was by its describers assigned to the Nyctosauridae. It would then be the oldest known member of the group and the smallest known; indeed the smallest adult Late Cretaceous pterosaur discovered until 2006.<sup>[1]</sup> As *Nyctosaurus* is sometimes included with the Pteranodontidae, *Muzquizopteryx* too might be considered a member of that group under some classifications.

Below is a cladogram showing the results of a phylogenetic analysis first presented by Andres and Myers in 2014, and updated with additional data by Andres and colleagues in 2018.<sup>[5]</sup>



## References

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4. Eberhard Frey, Ross A. Elgin, Wolfgang Stinnesbeck, José Manuel Padilla-Gutiérrez, Christina Ifrim, Samuel Giersch, and Arturo H. González-González, 2012, "A new specimen of nyctosaurid pterosaur, cf. *Muzquizopteryx* sp. from the Late Cretaceous of northeast Mexico", *Revista Mexicana de Ciencias Geológicas* **29**(1): 131-139
5. Andres, B.; Clark, J.; Xu, X. (2014). "The Earliest Pterodactyloid and the Origin of the Group" (<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cub.2014.03.030>). *Current Biology*. **24** (9): 1011–6. doi:10.1016/j.cub.2014.03.030 (<https://doi.org/10.1016%2Fj.cub.2014.03.030>). PMID 24768054 (<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/24768054>).

## See also

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- [List of pterosaur genera](#)
  - [Timeline of pterosaur research](#)
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